

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

AND SUN-TELEGRAM.

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RICHMOND, IND., MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23, 1907.

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OFFICER REFUSED TO ARREST MAN WHO STOLE FOR CHILDREN

INVESTIGATED THE CASE AND AFTER MOST PITIABLE CIRCUMSTANCES WERE DISCLOSED, HE REFUSED TO MAKE USE OF THE LAW.

MOTHER WAS FOUND FEEDING FLOUR AND WATER TO CHILDREN

The Flour Which She Was Using, Had Been Stolen a Few Minutes Previous, of Prominent Main Street Grocer.

MERCHANT'S HEART WAS TOUCHED BY CONDITIONS.

He Too Refused to Prosecute Case and Instead Furnished Provisions for the Unfortunate Man and His Family.

FUND IS GROWING RAPIDLY.

PEOPLE CHARITABLY INCLINED ARE DOING MUCH TOWARD ALLEVIATING HARDSHIPS AND DISTRESS IN MANY HOMES.

To what extent the "financial stringency" has affected some of the deserving laboring men of Richmond was strikingly illustrated the past week. No names are given because it is not necessary to add to the distress of the family that has so greatly felt the need of the necessities of life, but it is sufficient to say that the man and his family are well known and that the others who figure in the case are a member of the Richmond police force and a very well known grocerman.

One day the past week a man entered the store of the grocerman to whom reference is made above, and stood about for some time, apparently anxious for one of the clerks to wait on him. As the store was filled with customers it was a considerable time before he could be reached and in the meantime it was noticed that he left the store, taking a sack of flour under his arm. As the flour had not been sold to him, the case was reported to the proprietor of the store, who in turn reported it to the police and a member of the force was detailed to make the arrest.

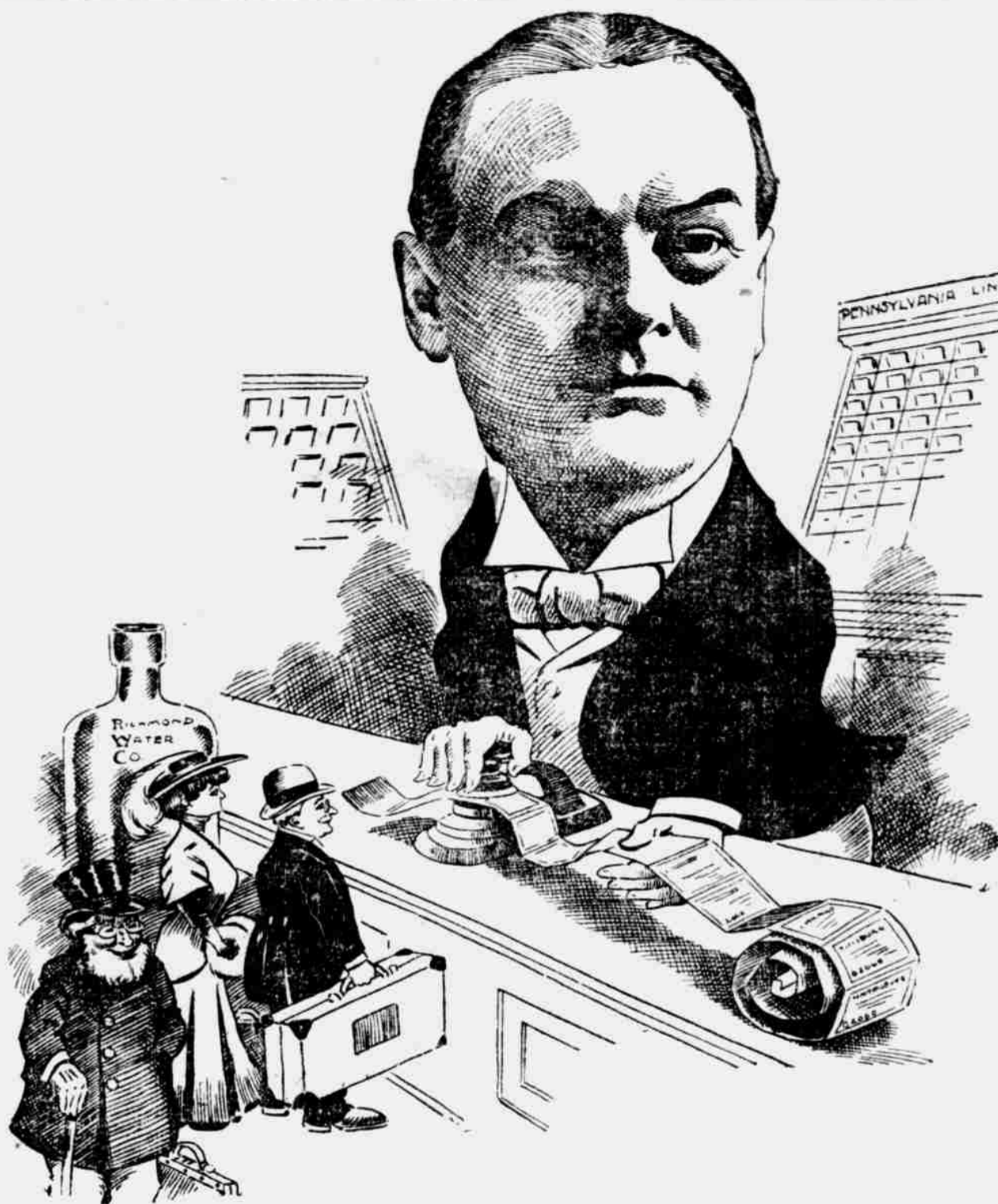
When the officer arrived at the home of the unfortunate man he made a discovery that drove from his mind all idea of placing the accused under arrest. He found the wife and mother mixing the stolen flour with water and feeding the mixture to her children, and that there was absolutely nothing else in the house to eat. The conditions were so distressing that the officer returned to the store and said to the proprietor: "If you wish an arrest made in this case, you will have to make it yourself; I cannot do it." He then told of the conditions that he had discovered.

The merchant decided that he would make an investigation for himself and so went to the home in question and found the conditions just as the officer had reported them. Touched by the deplorable situation, and knowing the man to be worthy, furthermore, merely a victim of circumstances, he returned to his store and had sent to the home a large supply of groceries, enough, in fact, to last the family for several days. Others heard of the circumstances and it is needless to say that supplies will be ample until the husband and father has again found employment and is able to provide for his family without assistance.

The case of this unfortunate man, who turned thief from sheer necessity, is cited as another example of the suffering among a certain class in this city and to discredit the statement of a certain Main Street merchant that there was no suffering in Richmond. It is to relieve such families as the one referred to, that the Palladium is asking its readers to subscribe to a fund which will be turned over to the Associated Charities. All the money and supplies raised by the Palladium for that worthy charitable organization will be used to the best advantage. A newspaper has a thousand eyes and would know in a minute if the money raised by it for the relief of the worthy poor, was not devoted to such purpose. Give what you can, reader, to this fund and see if you do not enjoy your Christmas much more than you would if you gave nothing.

Local Modern Woodmen will go to the home of L. E. Weisbrod, 318 North Eighteenth street, this evening, where they will hold special ritualistic services over the body of L. E. Weisbrod, who died Sunday.

MEN OF AFFAIRS IN RICHMOND



C. W. ELMER, Ticket and Passenger Agent, P. C., C. & St. L. R. R.

SONG AND SERMON TOLD OF THE BIRTH OF THE HOLY CHILD

Services in the Richmond Churches Were Largely Attended and Of Much Interest.

WATCHNIGHT MEETINGS TO BE HELD TUESDAY.

Programs Have Been Arranged By Several Churches of The City—Will Conclude at Midnight.

The story of Christmas was told in all the churches yesterday in song and sermon. The choirs sang the anthems that told of the birth and the ministers related the gospel that deals with the Child in Bethlehem, whose birthday will be celebrated next Wednesday wherever the Christian religion is known.

The congregations were large in all the churches despite the disagreeable weather. In the protestant churches an elaborate musical program was rendered. In the Roman Catholic church the service was augmented by Christmas music, though all the Catholic churches will hold services on Christmas day.

Sunday school exercises were held in the evening by many of the schools, recitations, and songs by the children constituting the programs.

At many of the churches watch night meetings will be held on New Year's eve, the services beginning at nine o'clock usually, and concluding at midnight. Music and addresses will constitute the programs.

DEAN OF WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY SPEAKS

Occupied Pulpit at Reid Memorial Church.

A PROMINENT ORATOR.

Rev. J. G. Allison, of Madison, Wis., occupied the pulpit at both morning and evening services at Reid Memorial church Sunday. Rev. Allison is prominent as a pulpit orator in the Presbyterian church. He was formerly pastor of First Presbyterian church at Bloomington, Ind., and was a great favorite with the students of Indiana University. While there he and Dr. S. R. Lyons, pastor of Reid Memorial church, became fast friends, and Dr. Allison is spending the holidays as his guest. The Rev. Dr. Allison is at present dean of Wisconsin University, and is one of the most scholarly men in the Presbyterian church.

SUICIDE MAKES SURE OF DEATH

Knife, Acid and Bath Tub the Means Used.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 23.—August Ahrens, a title investigator, made sure of death today by the employment of three methods of ending his life. Ahrens swallowed prussic acid, cut an artery in one wrist, and stabbed himself in the heart, and then flung himself face downward in a bath tub full of water to drown.

Ahrens had been subject to fits of intense melancholy lately.

PEACE ENVOY CORRECTS REPORT

Young Man From Webster Says That C., C. & L. Service There Is Good.

BETTER THAN DRIVING.

LITTLE INCONVENIENCE OF HAVING TRAINS FLAGGED, DOES NOT IN THE LEAST WORRY RESIDENTS OF THAT TOWN.

"It's better to come to Richmond on a train than to drive here," said a young man from Webster who appeared at the Palladium office as an ambassador to protest on behalf of the town of Webster, that the residents of that village were peevish because the C., C. & L. Railroad company would not make Webster a regular stopping place even after the citizens of Webster had donated a lot and built thereon a \$1,000 railroad station.

"It's true that since the completion of the new station," said the ambassador from Webster, "trains have to be flagged if we want them to stop, and it is also true that the railroad company has not placed an agent in charge of the station. However we are better off than we were before the station was built—then the trains did not even stop when flagged."

"The statement that the passengers have to flag trains themselves is not correct. The railroad company has a man stationed at Webster who lights the track lamps and flags the trains. Trains do not stop at Williamsburg unless they are flagged. The only advantage Williamsburg has over Webster is a station agent. On behalf of the citizens of Webster, I wish you would state that they are satisfied with the present railroad conditions—but they could be better satisfied."

THE WEATHER PROPHET.

INDIANA—Tuesday fair and colder. OHIO—Tuesday rain or snow and colder; brisk southeast, shifting to northwest winds.

RESENTS REPORT OF DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN BIDDERS

Y. M. C. A. Committee Says Outside Bidders Are Not Favored Unless Money Can Be Saved for Citizens.

FEELS THAT AN INJUSTICE IS BEING DONE MEMBERS.

It Is Cited That All Contracts, Save One, Have Been Let To Local Contractors While Local Labor Is Employed.

There has been an erroneous idea abroad, according to the Y. M. C. A. building committee, to the effect that all of the contracts let for the building were given to parties outside of Richmond. According to the committee this is a mistake. The work of raising the old building that occupied the site, was done by a local contractor and the excavation was done by Frank Fessler. The construction work for the foundation was done by Wolfe and Ewing, of Indianapolis, but this contract was let to them because their bid was so much lower than any of the local contractors, that the committee felt that it owed it to the citizens of Richmond, to let it to this firm. About \$1,000 was saved on this contract alone. All of the cement, gravel and other materials used in the reinforcement work was purchased in Richmond. With the exception of the foreman on the job, all of the labor was secured in Richmond.

In view of these facts the members of the committee feel that they are being done an injustice by the current reports, that local contractors and laborers are being ignored. Tuesday is the day for receiving bids by the building committee of the Y. M. C. A. for the superstructure of the building on North Eighth street. A month will be given to contractors in which to prepare their estimates and the contract will be let on January 25.

SON KILLS FATHER TO SAVE MOTHER

A Seventeen-Year-Old Boy Shoots Parent.

WAS INSTANTLY KILLED.

New York, Dec. 23.—To save the lives of his mother, three brothers and a cousin Peter Lindemeier, 17 years old, shot and instantly killed his father, Frederick Lindemeier, 38 years old, in their home on the second floor of the four-story building at 931 Grand street, Williamsburg.

RICHMOND READY FOR THE COMING OF CHRISTMAS DAY

Animated Shopping Scenes of The Past Few Days, Crowded Street Cars and Streets, Evidence of Near Approach.

CHRISTMAS TREE IS CON- SPICUOUS EVIDENCE.

All Over the City the Beautiful Green Trees Are Seen—Store Decorations Are Very Attractive This Year.

Richmond is almost ready for the coming of Christmas. The last few days of animated shopping scenes, the abundance of Christmas trees, holly, mistletoe and evergreen visible everywhere, whether in use for decorations or on display, and the overcrowded street cars, all give evidence of the near approach of the holidays.

It can be truthfully said that in some way everybody in the city makes preparation for Christmas. In the rich homes there are elaborate preparations, and in the homes of those who are poor the preparations, though not elaborate, are carried on in the true spirit of the Christmas tide.

Perhaps the most conspicuous evidence of the presence of Christmas and the holiday season is the omnipresent Christmas tree, of varying sizes and shapes, with its companions, the holly, mistletoe, laurel, smilax and other evergreens. In fact, the places where at least some of these can not be seen are hard to find.

Almost every store has its decorations of green, silver of laurel, holly or smilax, and both the exterior and interior present an attractive appearance to the eager Christmas shopper. Glancing in either direction on almost any street one can see a supply of Christmas trees in front of some business place, the holly wreath is swinging from the awning and the other Christmas "wares" are equally prominent.

Window decoration has become an art of its own in modern commercialism, and especially so during the Christmas holiday season when every effort is put forth by the merchants to make their places of business attractive to the eye, for if the place of business is not alluring in appearance, there is little possibility of inducing a probable Christmas shopper. One of the most attractively unique display windows in the city is at one of the largest hardware stores. In a large window, which lends itself readily to an extensive display, is to be found one that has attracted people for many miles around. The display is so arranged as to represent a large grassy plot in which is located an old mill race. At one end of the waterway is a splendid likeness of an old time mill, with its old fashioned water wheel, which is operated by an electrical attachment. The continuous operation of this wheel keeps the water constantly circulating about the course. On the body of water is a toy steam boat that constantly navigates the stream. Ducks and live gold fish also assist in the effectiveness of the old mill race. In the center of the course is a well arranged island on which is a variety of electrically operated mechanical figures doing all kinds of "stunts." An electrically operated third rail system, electric lights and other features, contribute to the beauty of the scene.

Since this window has been arranged there have been traveling men from New York and other eastern points who have inspected it, and without an exception, all pronounce it one of the best window displays they have ever seen anywhere in the United States.

DR. HAMILTON IS IMPROVING RAPIDLY

Hopes Entertained for a Complete Recovery.

HIS SON ARRIVES HOME.

Dr. C. M. Hamilton, of East Main street, who has been seriously ill for a week with pneumonia, is reported by his physician to be somewhat improved and hopes are entertained for his recovery. His son Edgar Hamilton arrived home from Florida and will spend Christmas with his parents.

THEY THOUGHT HIM DEAD.

Nat Arose and Ordered Embalmer to go Away. Richmond, Va., Dec. 23.—Though shrouded and ready for his grave Nat Conner, a colored man living in this city, suddenly arose from his bed and remarked that he was not dead and did not intend to be buried.

GRIM DEATH ENDS HAPPY HONEYMOON OF YOUNG COUPLE

Jacob Swearington, Former Wayne County Boy, While Taking Wife to New Home, Was Killed in a Wreck.

IS MOST TRAGIC ENDING OF A PRETTY ROMANCE.

After Short Courtship Swearington Won Hand of Ada Ferguson of Milton, and Were Married a Month Ago.

The death of Jacob Swearington, in a railroad wreck near Venachee, Wash., caused the tragic ending of a happy honeymoon trip. The bride of four weeks, who was formerly Miss Ada Ferguson of Milton, lies prostrate from grief in the little Washington town.

Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson, well known residents of Milton, received a telegram from their daughter, who is the heart-broken bride, which briefly stated that her husband had been killed while they were en route from Colorado, to Washington. In the latter state they had planned to make their future home. No particulars of the accident were given in the telegram but it is thought that young Swearington lost his life near Venachee, as the telegram was sent from there.

Swearington was a native of Wayne county. Several years ago he moved with his parents to Sterling, Kan. Later the young man returned to Wayne county and worked for his uncle, Daniel Harris of Greensfork. It was while living at Greensfork that he met Miss Ferguson. This acquaintance rapidly ripened into love and just a month ago, the young people were quietly married in Milton.

After the marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Swearington left for Sterling, Kan., to visit his parents. After a short visit there, young Swearington with his bride, father and mother left for Washington state, where all had planned to make their future home.

Saturday Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson received from their daughter, postal cards sent from Ogden, Utah. These postal cards told how happy the young bride was and how much she was enjoying the trip. It was shortly after the party left Ogden, that Swearington met his death. Mrs. Swearington will probably return to Milton to make her home with her parents. She has written to them, according to the telegram, giving full particulars of her husband's death.

TEACHERS TO MEET IN INDIANAPOLIS

Many Local Pedagogues Will Attend the State Association Sessions.

GLAD HAND EXTENDED.

INDIANAPOLIS TEACHERS WILL ROYALLY ENTERTAIN ALL THE VISITORS AT THE BIG MEETING.

Most of the local public school teachers will attend the State Teachers' association at Indianapolis, Thursday Friday and Saturday of this week. Several local men will appear on the program.

With a very few exceptions it is expected that every school teacher in the state of Indiana will attend. The three days' program that has been arranged for the entertainment and instruction of those who attend has been compiled and a number of copies have been sent out over the state. The headquarters for the session will be at the Claypool Hotel.

Frank D. Hester, deputy in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction, says that all the plans for the entertainment of the hundreds of school teachers have been completed in detail, and all of the visitors will be looked after by the Indianapolis teachers.

The first session of the association will be held Thursday morning, beginning at 9 o'clock. Not only will rooms in the Claypool hotel be utilized for the meetings, but the state house, Caleb Mills Hall, St. Paul's church, at New York and Illinois streets; Tomlinson Hall and the German House will be given over to the teachers for a part of the different division meetings.